



United States
Department of
Agriculture



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov

Week ending August 17, 2008

Released: 3:00 P.M., August 18, 2008

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 3.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, August 17, 2008**. The cooler weather and recent rainfall have made a positive impact on the development of some soybeans, but insect and disease pressure are affecting the crop in some areas of the state. Pasture and cotton conditions have greatly improved due to the increased moisture. The precipitation has prevented some fieldwork, but has been a welcomed relief to several producers. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 16 percent short, 57 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 08/17/08

| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn, dough | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Corn, dent | 98 | 96 | 100 | 96 |
| Corn, mature | 70 | 49 | 81 | 71 |
| Corn, harvested | 7 | 4 | 27 | 20 |
| Corn Silage, harvested | 77 | 59 | 95 | 94 |
| Cotton, setting bolls | 98 | 97 | 100 | 99 |
| Cotton, open bolls | 5 | 2 | 23 | 17 |
| Hay-Warm Season, harvested | 80 | 78 | 75 | 78 |
| Peanuts, pegging | 100 | 100 | 99 | 100 |
| Rice, headed | 81 | 69 | 99 | 97 |
| Rice, mature | 7 | 2 | 49 | 24 |
| Rice, harvested | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Sorghum, heading | 98 | 96 | 100 | 100 |
| Sorghum, coloring | 80 | 68 | 92 | 96 |
| Sorghum, mature | 30 | 18 | 58 | 64 |
| Sorghum, harvested | 2 | -- | 21 | 21 |
| Soybeans, blooming | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Soybeans, setting pods | 96 | 93 | 98 | 99 |
| Soybeans, turning color | 25 | 10 | 48 | 55 |
| Soybeans, dropping leaves | 6 | 1 | 27 | 35 |
| Soybeans, harvested | -- | -- | 6 | 13 |
| Watermelons, harvested | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Crop condition for week ending 08/17/08

| Item | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn | 6 | 13 | 20 | 41 | 20 |
| Cotton | 5 | 6 | 22 | 53 | 14 |
| Hay | 2 | 10 | 22 | 55 | 11 |
| Livestock | 4 | 6 | 26 | 52 | 12 |
| Pasture | 5 | 14 | 33 | 39 | 9 |
| Peanuts | 0 | 0 | 6 | 79 | 15 |
| Rice | 0 | 3 | 10 | 49 | 38 |
| Sorghum | 0 | 4 | 15 | 54 | 27 |
| Soybeans | 5 | 11 | 26 | 44 | 14 |
| Sweet Potatoes | 0 | 7 | 13 | 73 | 7 |

Comments

“Fields are too wet to work, but corn is ready to harvest.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Showers and rains all week stopped all fieldwork and harvest. Soybeans are being sprayed for stink bugs, boll worms, and bean leaf beetles.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Rains arrived too late for some of the corn, but has been timely for most of the soybean crop. Early planted cotton that had reached cutout will likely produce heavy regrowth now, but later planted cotton should be able to take good advantage of the fresh moisture.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Armyworm populations have exploded around Central Mississippi. Many hay and cattle producers are spraying pastures and hay fields. Rains have helped grow some hay lately, but has delayed some hay from being cut when it should have been.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Rains last week were a welcomed site. The pastures look much better, and the cattle look happier. The corn growers are returning to the field since they are drying out enough to hold the tractors. There is a prediction of rain again this weekend. We will see what happens.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Farmers are continuing to drain rice fields. Rains have delayed corn harvest for some. Late planted soybeans have benefited from the recent rains.”

— Laura Giaccaglia, Bolivar

“Recent rains have turned our later planted grain crops around and has really kicked cotton off.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Cooler temperatures and scattered showers have really helped to fill out soybean pods and corn. Cotton is fruiting well and looks promising now. Prior to the rains, we were hurting on non-irrigated crops.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We had cooler weather and rain during the week, which will help soybeans. Corn is maturing, but a lot of fields that suffered from hot and dry conditions earlier will have reduced yields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Fall armyworms are picking up in the hayfields, pastures, and food plots. Several forage fields have been treated and several duck food plots have been stripped.”

— Stephen R Winters, Grenada

“Crop conditions are good throughout most of the area with the exception of small areas that have missed recent rains. Insect and disease pressure is increasing in soybeans.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Soil moisture is still low even though most areas have had some rain. Pastures are still short. Hay fields are looking better for another cutting. Cotton, peanuts, and corn are looking real good.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Rainfall this week has reduced activity in the fields. Pastures are looking better than they have in three years with more than three inches of rain this week. It has stopped producers from cutting and baling hay, but it has provided the moisture needed to improve pastures. For the first time in more than four years, there is adequate soil moisture in the middle of August.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Post-harvest activities of blueberry fields continue. Corn harvest will begin soon. Field preparation for cool season forages will begin soon. Scattered rains have just about covered the county, and with temperatures dropping into the low nineties, moisture is being retained in the soil longer. With the high cost of commerical fertilizer, more local farmers are selecting to use an alternative source of fertilizer (poultry by-product fertilizer).”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

| Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/17/08 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| Division/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Plan Evap |
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| Upper Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cleveland | 90 | 68 | 76 | 82 | -6 | 3.97 | 3.41 | 5 | 5.97 | | | | |
| Lambert | 90 | 65 | 76 | | | 1.78 | 1.15 | 4 | 4.08 | | | | |
| Tunica | 88 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 1.18 | 0.62 | 4 | 3.93 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 90 | 65 | 76 | 81 | -5 | 2.31 | 1.73 | 4 | 4.66 | | | | |
| North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 87 | 65 | 74 | 80 | -6 | 2.09 | 1.39 | 3 | 4.83 | | | | |
| Hickory Flat | 87 | 60 | 73 | 79 | -6 | 1.20 | 0.42 | 4 | 4.45 | | | | |
| Independence | 86 | 62 | 73 | 79 | -6 | 1.39 | 0.76 | 4 | 3.31 | | | | |
| Oxford | 88 | 62 | 74 | 79 | -5 | 1.21 | 0.44 | 5 | 6.82 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 88 | 60 | 74 | 79 | -5 | 1.47 | 0.75 | 4 | 4.85 | | | | |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pontotoc | 86 | 63 | 74 | 80 | -6 | 2.79 | 2.09 | 5 | 6.15 | | | | |
| Ripley | 87 | 60 | 73 | 78 | -5 | 0.37 | -0.26 | 2 | 1.98 | | | | |
| Tupelo | 87 | 66 | 75 | | | 1.96 | 0.00 | 3 | 6.82 | | | | |
| Verona | 89 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 0.68 | -0.16 | 4 | 5.34 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 89 | 60 | 74 | 79 | -5 | 1.45 | 0.56 | 4 | 5.07 | | | | |
| Lower Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhead | 88 | 66 | 74 | 82 | -8 | 2.21 | 1.70 | 6 | 5.96 | | | | |
| Rolling Fork | 93 | 68 | 76 | 81 | -5 | 7.88 | 7.30 | 4 | 9.91 | | | | |
| Yazoo City | 90 | 69 | 77 | 82 | -5 | 3.85 | 3.08 | 2 | 6.82 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 93 | 66 | 76 | 82 | -6 | 4.65 | 4.03 | 4 | 7.56 | | | | |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 90 | 67 | 75 | 81 | -6 | 4.32 | 3.62 | 5 | 6.31 | | | | |
| Carthage | 88 | 64 | 74 | 80 | -6 | 3.20 | 2.40 | 4 | 5.73 | | | | |
| Eupora | 88 | 63 | 74 | 79 | -5 | 2.17 | 1.54 | 4 | 5.22 | | | | |
| Kosciusko | 87 | 66 | 74 | 81 | -7 | 3.27 | 2.49 | 5 | 7.63 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 90 | 63 | 74 | 80 | -6 | 3.24 | 2.51 | 5 | 6.22 | | | | |
| East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 87 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 0.50 | -0.13 | 4 | 3.01 | | | | |
| Macon | 88 | 66 | 76 | 81 | -5 | 2.33 | 1.50 | 4 | 4.78 | | | | |
| Philadelphia | 90 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 1.90 | 1.07 | 3 | 5.44 | | | | |
| State University | 89 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 3.26 | 2.53 | 3 | 5.27 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 90 | 65 | 75 | 80 | -5 | 2.00 | 1.24 | 4 | 4.63 | | | | |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crystal Springs | 92 | 65 | 77 | 81 | -4 | 10.81 | 10.04 | 5 | 12.39 | | | | |
| Natchez | 92 | 66 | 79 | 81 | -2 | 3.14 | 2.27 | 4 | 4.97 | | | | |
| Oakley | 92 | 65 | 78 | 80 | -2 | 3.59 | 2.71 | 3 | 6.68 | | | | |
| Vicksburg | 90 | 70 | 77 | | | 5.48 | 0.00 | 3 | 8.43 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 92 | 65 | 78 | 81 | -3 | 5.76 | 5.01 | 4 | 8.12 | | | | |
| South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | 91 | 62 | 76 | 80 | -4 | 5.55 | 4.64 | 3 | 6.75 | | | | |
| Columbia | 94 | 65 | 79 | 81 | -2 | 2.44 | 1.41 | 4 | 5.14 | | | | |
| Monticello | 95 | 62 | 78 | 81 | -3 | 3.60 | 2.69 | 4 | 4.97 | | | | |
| Raleigh | 89 | 60 | 75 | | | 3.39 | | 4 | 5.59 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 95 | 60 | 77 | 81 | -4 | 3.75 | 2.91 | 4 | 5.61 | | | | |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 92 | 63 | 78 | 82 | -4 | 2.49 | 1.41 | 4 | 7.09 | | | | |
| Laurel | 91 | 62 | 77 | 81 | -4 | 2.73 | 1.82 | 5 | 5.77 | | | | |
| Newton | 90 | 53 | 73 | 80 | -7 | 4.03 | 3.19 | 4 | 6.78 | | | | |
| Waynesboro | 91 | 61 | 78 | 80 | -2 | 1.53 | 0.82 | 5 | 3.79 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 92 | 53 | 77 | 81 | -4 | 2.70 | 1.81 | 5 | 5.86 | | | | |
| Coastal | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | | | | |
| State | 95 | 53 | 76 | 80 | -4 | 3.03 | 2.28 | 4 | 5.84 | | | | |

DFN = Departure from Normal.